



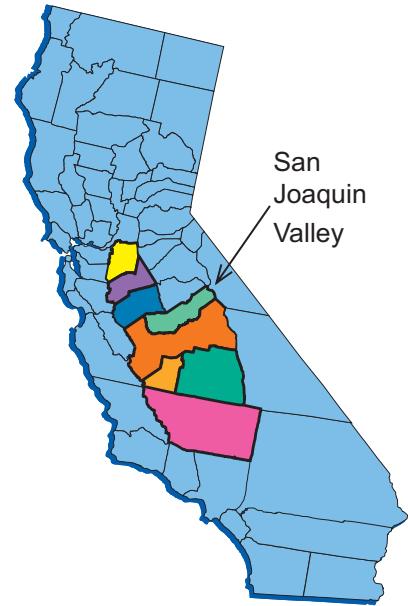
Data for July 2005

# CALIFORNIA Dairy Information BULLETIN

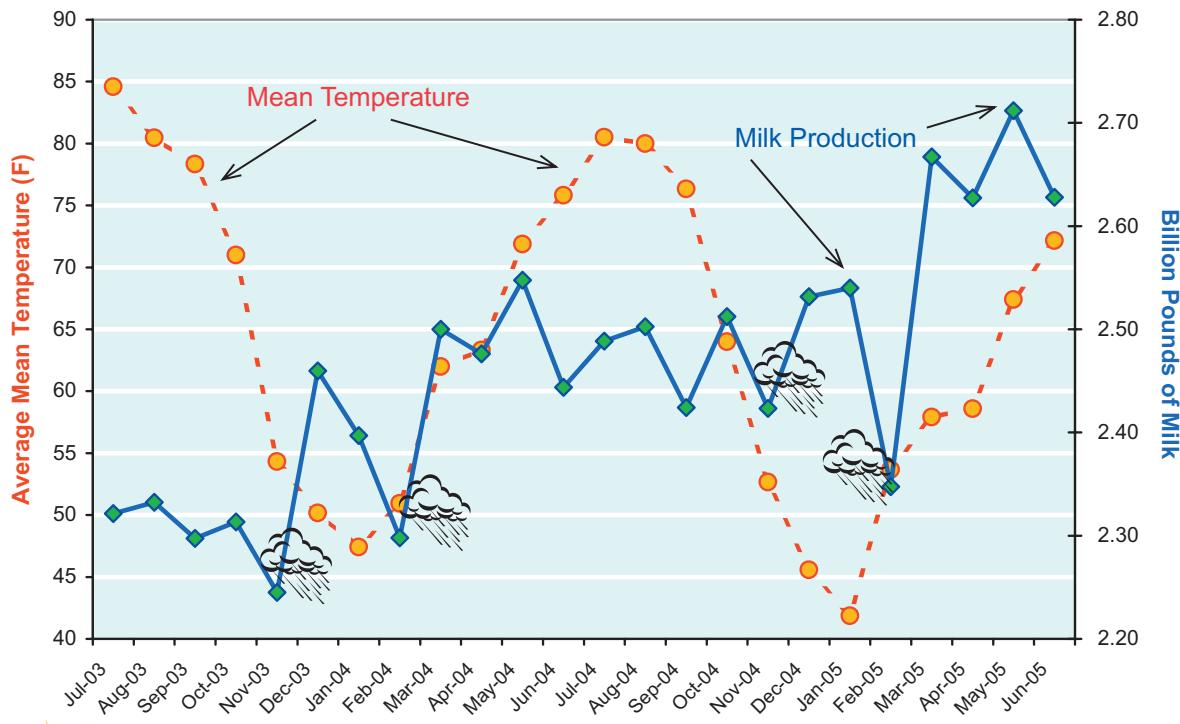
## California's San Joaquin Valley Scores Big On Milk Production . . . What Role Does the Area Temperature and Rainfall Play?

The San Joaquin Valley is home to some of California's highest milk producing dairy counties. The area consists of eight counties: San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Kern, and Tulare. Together, these counties account for 83% of California's milk production, more than 2.6 billion pounds of milk per month, or approximately 17% of the nation's monthly milk production.

The graph below shows the effect of temperature on milk production in the San Joaquin Valley. Note that when temperatures are high, milk production is low, but when temperatures begin to fall, milk production increases. Also, the highest rainfall months for this area, November and February, consistently show dips in milk production, even though temperatures are cool/mild and when the rains are beginning to slow in the month of March, milk production climbs.



**Comparing Average Mean Temperature with Average Milk Production  
San Joaquin Valley Area: July 2003 - June 2005**



Sources: USDA California Agricultural Statistics Service, CDFA Dairy Marketing Branch  
Temperature and Rainfall data taken from monthly averages of the following areas: Stockton, Fresno, Bakersfield. Average milk production data included the eight San Joaquin Valley counties listed above.

